



# UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE  
United States Patent and Trademark Office  
Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450  
[www.uspto.gov](http://www.uspto.gov)

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/797,565	03/11/2004	Steven M. Griffiths	008306-0304853	4820
20583	7590	08/21/2007	EXAMINER	
JONES DAY			MACNEILL, ELIZABETH	
222 EAST 41ST ST			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
NEW YORK, NY 10017			3767	
		MAIL DATE	DELIVERY MODE	
		08/21/2007	PAPER	

**Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.**

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

<b>Office Action Summary</b>	<b>Application No.</b>	<b>Applicant(s)</b>	
	10/797,565	GRIFFITHS, STEVEN M.	
	Examiner Elizabeth R. MacNeill	Art Unit 3767	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --  
**Period for Reply**

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

#### Status

- 1) Responsive to communication(s) filed on 08 June 2007.
- 2a) This action is FINAL.                    2b) This action is non-final.
- 3) Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

#### Disposition of Claims

- 4) Claim(s) 1-27 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) 22-27 is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are allowed.
- 6) Claim(s) 1-21 is/are rejected.
- 7) Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are objected to.
- 8) Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

#### Application Papers

- 9) The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) The drawing(s) filed on 11 March 2004 is/are: a) accepted or b) objected to by the Examiner.  
 Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).  
 Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

#### Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
  - a) All    b) Some \* c) None of:
    1. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
    2. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
    3. Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

#### Attachment(s)

1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)	4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)
2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)	Paper No(s)/Mail Date: _____
3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08)	5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application
Paper No(s)/Mail Date: _____	6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____

**DETAILED ACTION**

***Continued Examination Under 37 CFR 1.114***

1. A request for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114, including the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(e), was filed in this application after final rejection. Since this application is eligible for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114, and the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(e) has been timely paid, the finality of the previous Office action has been withdrawn pursuant to 37 CFR 1.114. Applicant's submission filed on 8 June 2007 has been entered.

***Drawings***

2. The drawings are objected to under 37 CFR 1.83(a). The drawings must show every feature of the invention specified in the claims. Therefore, the front exterior and front interior surfaces must be shown (and described in the specification) or the feature(s) canceled from the claim(s). No new matter should be entered.

Corrected drawing sheets in compliance with 37 CFR 1.121(d) are required in reply to the Office action to avoid abandonment of the application. Any amended replacement drawing sheet should include all of the figures appearing on the immediate prior version of the sheet, even if only one figure is being amended. The figure or figure number of an amended drawing should not be labeled as "amended." If a drawing figure is to be canceled, the appropriate figure must be removed from the replacement sheet, and where necessary, the remaining figures must be renumbered and appropriate changes made to the brief description of the several views of the drawings for consistency. Additional replacement sheets may be necessary to show the renumbering

Art Unit: 3767

of the remaining figures. Each drawing sheet submitted after the filing date of an application must be labeled in the top margin as either "Replacement Sheet" or "New Sheet" pursuant to 37 CFR 1.121(d). If the changes are not accepted by the examiner, the applicant will be notified and informed of any required corrective action in the next Office action. The objection to the drawings will not be held in abeyance.

***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102***

1. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

2. Claims 1,8 and 9 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Myerson et al (US 3,063,450)

Regarding claim 1, Myerson teaches a needle and hub assembly for an injection device, comprising: a cap (Fig 1) having an engaging portion (18) adapted to engage an exterior surface (22) of a cartridge (2), and a needle-supporting portion (34) having a wall with a front surface (distal ends of 36) that includes an opening therein, the wall defining interior and exterior surfaces (Fig 1); a first hub portion (11/8) defining a needle-receiving channel (48) through the opening in the wall and having a section that extends along the interior surface of the wall (at 42); a needle (50) mounted in the needle-receiving channel and extending outwardly therefrom; and a second hub portion (12) engaged with the first hub portion (at 55) and receiving at least a portion of

Art Unit: 3767

the needle, the second hub portion having reinforcing structures (threads at 32) which extend outwardly along the exterior surface of the wall; wherein the wall of the needle-supporting portion of the cap is reinforced on the interior surface by the first hub portion and on the exterior surface by the second hub portion. See Figure 1.

Regarding claim 8, the second hub portion further comprises a supporting portion (46) that extends along the needle.

Regarding claim 9, the needle-receiving channel provides a continuous flow pathway from the inside of the cap to the outside of the cap (via needle lumen).

***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103***

3. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

4. Claims 2-8 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Myerson.

Myerson teaches the assembly as above. Myerson does not teach that the first and second hub portions are fused. Rather, "the bore of screw cap 12 has a lower tapered portion 55 for cooperating with the external taper 56 of the jaws 11" (Col 4 line 12). It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to fuse the sections together since they are already intended to be mated together securely and it would involve only routine skill in the art to fuse the pieces

Art Unit: 3767

together, in addition to the added benefit preventing the device from being disassembled.

Regarding claims 3-6, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to use metal and plastic to form the device, since it has been held to be within the general skill of a worker in the art to select a known material on the basis of its suitability for the intended use as a matter of obvious design choice. *In re Leshin*, 125 USPQ 416.

Regarding claim 7, the reinforcing structures are radially-extending ribs (12). Claims 10-27 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Cooper in view of Sarnoff et al (US 4,755,169).

Regarding claim 10, Myerson teaches a needle and hub assembly for an injection device, comprising: a cap (Fig 1) having an engaging portion (18) adapted to engage an exterior surface (22) of a cartridge (2), and a needle-supporting portion (34) having a wall with a front surface (distal ends of 36) that includes an opening therein, the wall defining interior and exterior surfaces (Fig 1); a first hub portion (11/8) defining a needle-receiving channel (48) through the opening in the wall and having a section that extends along the interior surface of the wall (at 42); a needle (50) mounted in the needle-receiving channel and extending outwardly therefrom; and a second hub portion (12) engaged with the first hub portion (at 55) and receiving at least a portion of the needle, the second hub portion having reinforcing structures (threads at 32) which extend outwardly along the exterior surface of the wall; wherein the wall of the needle-

Art Unit: 3767

supporting portion of the cap is reinforced on the interior surface by the first hub portion and on the exterior surface by the second hub portion. See Figure 1.

Myerson fails to teach that the assembly is used with an automatic injector with a stored energy source.

Sarnoff teaches an automatic injector with a hub assembly (526), plunger (558), cartridge (546) and a stored energy means (spring 564). See Figs 10-13

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to use the stored energy means of Sarnoff with the hub assembly of Myerson in order to provide a means for automatically injecting a medicament into a patient by applying less force to the plunger (i.e. allowing the stored energy means to provide force to the plunger).

Regarding claim 11, Myerson does not teach that the first and second hub portions are fused. Rather, "the bore of screw cap 12 has a lower tapered portion 55 for cooperating with the external taper 56 of the jaws 11" (Col 4 line 12). It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to fuse the sections together since they are already intended to be mated together securely and it would involve only routine skill in the art to fuse the pieces together, in addition to the added benefit preventing the device from being disassembled.

Regarding claims 12-15, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to use metal and plastic to form the device, since it has been held to be within the general skill of a worker in the art to select a known

material on the basis of its suitability for the intended use as a matter of obvious design choice. *In re Leshin*, 125 USPQ 416.

Regarding claim 16, the reinforcing structures are radially-extending ribs (12).

Regarding claim 17, the second hub portion further comprises a supporting portion (46) that extends along the needle.

Regarding claim 18, the needle-receiving channel provides a continuous flow pathway from the inside of the cap to the outside of the cap (via needle lumen).

Regarding claim 19, the cartridge has two medicament compartments (552, 540, Sarnoff).

Regarding claim 20, one of the medicament compartments is adapted to house a wet medicament component (552) and the other medicament compartment is adapted to house a dry medicament compartment (540, Sarnoff).

Regarding claim 21, the at least one opening in the cartridge is in the dry medicament compartment (Sarnoff Fig 10).

#### ***Response to Arguments***

5. Applicant's arguments with respect to claims 1-27 have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

#### ***Conclusion***

The following prior art is made of record: US 3,974,832.

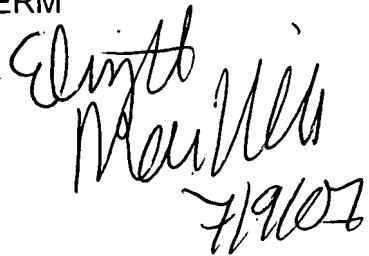
Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Elizabeth R. MacNeill whose telephone number is (571)-272-9970. The examiner can normally be reached on 9:00-5:30 M-F.

Art Unit: 3767

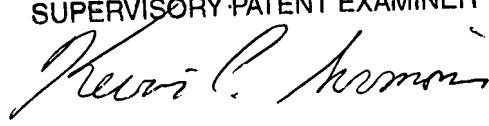
If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Kevin Sirmons can be reached on (571) 272-4965. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

ERM

  
Cynthia Mauk  
7/9/07

KEVIN C. SIRMONS  
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER

  
Kevin C. Sirmons